IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Confirmation No.: 7893

Kazunori TANIGUCHI et al. Date: June 24, 2008

Serial No.: 10/630,509 Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: July 30, 2003 Examiner: Tuan Van NGUYEN

For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

VIA EFS-WEB Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION AND FEE FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.17, 1.136(a) AND 35 USC 41(a)8

Sir:

Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by one month. The fee including the amount of \$120.00 for the petition fee is submitted herewith in accordance with 37 CFR 1.17, and is computed as:

√	Response within first month	
	$\sqrt{}$ not small entity (\$12)	20) small entity (\$60)

You are authorized to charge to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700 any additional amounts owing.

If this petition is inadequate to avoid abandonment, the Assistant Commissioner for Patents is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS FILING SYSTEM ON JUNE 24, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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